

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

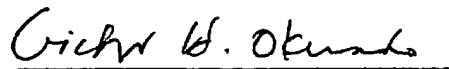
In the Office Action of May 12, 2004, Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,996,076 issued to Rowney et al.; Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rowney et al., and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,006,258 issued to Kalajan; Claims 7-20 are allowed; and Claims 3-6 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 1 and 2 are cancelled, and Claim 3 amended so as to be in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, pending claims 3-20 are now believed to be allowable, and an early notice of their allowance earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: July 31, 2004



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